

Kristen Marie Guida, DNP, ANP-C, ACNP-BC, AGACNP-BC, FNP-C, CNE

CTAPRNS President

65 Amato Cir

Southington, CT 06489

Senator Abrams, Rep. Steinberg, and Members of the Public Health Committee

March 25, 2021

My name is Kristen Marie Guida, and I am the President of The Connecticut Advanced Practice Registered Nurse Society. I am submitting written testimony in favor of support for the bill SB 1070: AN ACT ALLOWING ADVANCE PRACTICE REGISTERED NURSES AND PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS TO ISSUE HOME HEALTH ORDERS.

Under the CARES Act, in the current pandemic situation and under The Governors Emergency Orders, Nurse practitioners (APRNs), physician assistants (PAs), and clinical nurse specialists (CNSs) can now certify eligibility for home health and establish a care plan. We respectfully request that Bill SB 1070 be drafted into legislation, making it a law. As advanced practice providers both APRNs and Physician Assistants, through their training and advanced degrees, are qualified to determine when a patient is in need of receiving home health care and establishing a plan of care. Advanced practice providers care for patients in acute care settings as well as primary care settings. In a time, when we are trying to keep health care costs down, being able to certify eligibility and sign for home health orders will help eligible patients that qualify for much needed care in their own homes.

Those advanced practice providers that work in the acute care setting, through proper training and advanced degrees, may be employed in a capacity in which they are able to assist a surgeon performing a surgery. Additionally, the advanced practice provider may have credentials to

perform invasive procedures. In an emergent situation, I personally, am credentialed to place a surgical chest tube. Since advance practice providers have an intimate knowledge of medicine, and in some cases surgery, they are well-positioned to understand what a patient needs at home for recovery.

As an example, I cared for a patient that had an open abdominal aortic aneurysm repair. As an advanced practitioner working on a surgical service in the hospital, I was responsible for completing the discharge paperwork. The patient had a complicated length of stay. Completing the discharge would have been far more efficient and effective if I could have simply signed the W10 rather than needing to find a physician, explain the need, or worse, just have the physician sign without an explanation of need.

Thank you for your time and attention to this relevant legislative bill SB1070: AN ACT ALLOWING ADVANCE PRACTICE REGISTERED NURSES AND PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS TO ISSUE HOME HEALTH ORDERS. On behalf of The Connecticut Advanced Practice Registered Nurse Society, we sincerely hope that you will consider this bill, so that we can continue providing high quality, effective and efficient health care to the constituents of our state. Thank you in advance for your time and attention to this legislative issue.

Warmest Regards,

Kristen Marie Guida

Kristen Marie Guida, DNP, ANP-C, ACNP-BC, AGACNP-BC, FNP-C, CNE
CTAPRNS President